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- Prohibited Activities

■ Feeding bears, alligators, or any wildlife.

■ Any activities within areas designated “Area Closed”.

■ Any activities outside of daylight hours (except permitted hunters under refuge hunt rules).

■ Unrestrained pets.

■ Camping, building fires or overnight anchoring.

■ Littering.

■ Taking, collecting or disturbing any plant or wildlife other than those specified by refuge rules.

■ Cutting firewood or trimming vegetation, and possession of saws, saw blades, and/or machetes.

■ Searching for or removing any object of antiquity including arrowheads and pottery shards.

■ Blocking gates or roadways with vehicles.

■ Parking, walking or hunting within 100 feet of any active oil well site, production facility or equipment.

■ Fishing with unattended jug, trot, bush or similar lines, nets or traps.

■ Commercial fishing or crabbing.

■ Taking or collecting of turtles.

■ Firearms on the Refuge, except by permitted hunters during applicable gun hunt seasons.

■ The use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting or driving any motorized vehicle.

■ Target shooting.

■ Hunting in and/or shooting into or across any open field, roadway or canal.

■ Baiting wildlife, or hunting over bait.

■ Possession or use of lead shot or buckshot.

■ Spot-lighting wildlife or using man-drives for wildlife.

■ Unregulated trapping.

■ Killing of feral and other animals without refuge Season Hunt Permit.

■ Climbing trees by driving nails, spikes, or other objects; using a tree that has existing nails, spikes or permanent steps; or using climbing spikes.

■ Marking with flagging, paper, paint, trash, etc...

Activity	Dates	Area Restrictions	Refuge Permit Requirements
Wildlife Observation	Year Round	Open in all areas not designated as “Area Closed”	Public Use Permit
Bank Fishing	Year Round	Open in all areas not designated as “Area Closed”	Public Use Permit
Recreational Boating/Fishing	Year Round	Open in all areas not designated as “Area Closed”	Public Use Permit
Hunting	October - January	Permit specific restrictions. See Hunting Regulations table for specific seasons and hunt areas.	Season Hunt Permit (by lottery) Daily Check Card Public Use Permit

Bayou Teche
National Wildlife Refuge
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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD

May 2004



Bayou Teche

National Wildlife Refuge

Public Use, Hunting and Fishing Regulations

This is an annual permit. In order to conserve tax dollars, please keep this permit throughout the year.

Bayou Teche Refuge Public Use Permit May 2004 - April 2005

When signed and in your possession, this serves as your permit for public use on the refuge. It acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained herein.

signature (permits are non-transferable)

Bayou Teche National Wildlife Refuge
Bayou Teche National Wildlife Refuge, established in 2001, is located in St. Mary Parish in southeast Louisiana. The 9,028 acre refuge is composed of wet bottomland hardwood laced with bayous and canals. The primary mission of the refuge is to preserve and manage habitat for the threatened Louisiana black bear. Other objectives are to provide habitat for other fish and wildlife species, environmental education, and opportunities for public recreation. The refuge provides important habitat for the Louisiana black bear, a federally threatened subspecies of the American black bear. It also provides excellent habitat for wading birds, neotropical songbirds, waterfowl, and reptiles and amphibians. The refuge is open year round to the public from sunrise to sunset, with seasonal restrictions in some areas. The refuge can be accessed by vehicle, foot, or boat. Wildlife observation, boating and fishing are allowed on the refuge year round except in areas closed to public access. Hunting is permitted on the refuge in specific areas and under date, time, and lottery restrictions. All open hunting seasons are listed in this brochure.

General Regulations
Hunting, fishing and public use regulations are designed to provide safe recreational opportunities through wise use of renewable wildlife resources. Hunting and fishing are permitted in accordance with Federal regulations governing public use on National Wildlife Refuges as set forth in Title 50 of The Code of Federal Regulations. Hunting and fishing will be in accordance with applicable State of Louisiana regulations subject to the conditions stated below.

Permits
All Refuge users, are required to possess a signed Public Use permit while on the Refuge. Public Use permits are free and are found on the front of this brochure. A signed permit acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained herein. All visitors, including hunters, fishermen, boaters, bird watchers, etc., are required to abide by all terms and conditions in this document, as well as all other applicable State of Louisiana and Federal regulations. Brochures may be obtained by mail, at the refuge headquarters, or from the Refuge website. All Hunters are also required to have a Refuge Hunt Season Permit. See Section on Hunting in this brochure for more specific information.

Access
The Refuge is accessible by car, truck, foot, ATV, or

boat, dependent on the area to be accessed and the time of year. The Alice-C road enters the Garden City unit of the Refuge and provides access by car. Marked un-improved roads crossing farm fields can be used to access the Centerville, Garden City, North Bend-East and North Bend-West units of the Refuge. These are low-grade roads and can be traveled by vehicles only during dry seasons. They are not recommended for driving during wet seasons; travel by ATV or foot is recommended on these roads during those times. Take note of Refuge signs on roads, trails and waterways indicating vehicle type restrictions. Motorized vehicles are only allowed on specifically signed access roads; they are not allowed on trails maintained for public access by foot. Motorized boats can be used on open waterways (canals and bayous) on the Refuge. Boats with motors are not allowed on isolated water bodies or where designated for non-motorized boats only.

Physically Challenged or Disabled Users
Physically challenged or disabled public users are encouraged to consult refuge staff for available options and alternatives that may make their visit more enjoyable.

Fishing
State of Louisiana creel limits and regulations apply. Recreational fishing is permitted during daylight hours only (sunrise to sunset) and lines must be attended at all times. Commercial fishing is not allowed. The use of unattended nets, traps, or lines (trot, jug, bush, etc) is not allowed. Fishing is allowed from shore and from boats. Fishermen are required to possess a signed Public Use Permit.

Boating
Recreational boating is allowed in waterways (canals and bayous). All State of Louisiana boating regulations apply including, but not limited to, running lights, registration, and personal floatation devices. Boaters are required to possess a signed Public Use Permit. Airboat use is not permitted on the refuge. Motorized boats are not allowed in isolated water bodies (ponds, borrow pits) and other areas designated as non-motorized boats only.

Hunting
In addition to the **Public Use Permit** required for all Refuge users, all hunters must possess a **Refuge Season Permit**. Season permits are granted annually by lottery drawing. Hunters must submit an application for the drawing indicating each hunt season they want to participate in. See the Hunting Regulations table in this

brochure for hunt season dates, bag limits, areas, etc. Applications for Hunt Season permits can be found in this brochure and will be accepted through August 15. Applicants will be selected by random computer drawing. All hunters, regardless of age, will be required to submit proof of completion of hunter education (**International Bowhunter Education** for bow hunters, and **State Hunter Education** for gun hunters) to be included in the lottery drawing. All permitted hunters must also use **Daily Check Cards** at refuge check stations to check in and out of the refuge each day that they hunt. Failure to follow Refuge rules and regulations, or disregard or abuse of neighboring private lands, may result in revocation of hunting permits and/or exclusion from future hunts.

Permits are non-transferable and must be in the hunter's possession at all times while on the refuge during the permitted hunt. Permits are given to individual hunters and not parties or groups of hunters.

Hunters are authorized to take only species listed on the season permit. Harming or needlessly disturbing plants or other wildlife is a violation of refuge regulations.

Each youth of age 16 years or younger must be supervised by an adult of age 18 years or older. Both youth hunters and adult supervisors must have proof of completion of a State Hunter Education Course.

Hunters may enter the hunting area no earlier than 2 hours before sunrise and may remain no later than one hour after sunset.

Possession of lead shot is prohibited on the Refuge; approved non-toxic shot must be used in shotguns. Possession of buckshot is prohibited.

Firearms carried in vehicles or boats must be unloaded and encased or dismantled. Loaded is defined as shells in gun or cap on a muzzleloader. Archery tackle must be uncocked with arrow un-nocked from string.

Baiting wildlife, hunting over bait, feeding wildlife, spot-lighting wildlife and man-drives for wildlife are prohibited.

Only portable stands or blinds may be used, and must be dismantled or removed after each days use. A stand or blind left on the refuge overnight may be used by any hunter on a first-come, first-serve basis. Hunting from old stands or blinds erected in past years, or using old structures or camps is strictly prohibited; old structures and stands are unsafe for any use. Live vegetation can not

be cut or moved to create blinds.

The only dogs allowed for hunting are recognized retriever breeds for use in waterfowl hunting. All dogs must be collared with owners name and phone number. Dogs used for chase are not allowed on the refuge.

Archery Deer Season
Archery Season Permits and use of refuge Daily Check Cards are required. Bowhunters will be required to possess proof of completion of the International Bowhunters Education Program. Bows are permitted only during the Refuge archery season. State of Louisiana regulations governing drug tipped arrows, pods, broadhead size, etc., are applicable. Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries regulations governing crossbow use will apply to refuge hunters. No firearms are allowed on the archery hunt.

Gun Deer Season - General and Youth
Gun Deer Season Permits and use of refuge Daily Check Cards are required. All gun hunters will be required to possess proof of completion of the State Hunter Education Program.

Hunter orange (400 square inches of unbroken hunter orange and a hunter orange cap) must be worn by hunters during gun deer seasons.

During the Youth Gun Deer Hunt, the youth permit holder (age 16 or younger) must be accompanied (in sight and in normal voice contact) by a non-hunting licensed adult hunter (age 18 or older) and only the youth is permitted to carry a firearm. Youth hunters and adult supervisors must possess proof of completion of a State Hunter Education course.

Small Game Season (squirrel and rabbit)
Small Game Permits and use of refuge Daily Check Cards are required. All gun hunters will be required to possess proof of completion of the State Hunter Education Program. Dogs used for chase are not allowed.

Waterfowl Season
Waterfowl Season Permits and use of refuge Daily Check Cards are required. This waterfowl season allows all species of take included in the Louisiana State Waterfowl season and are the same as those described by state waterfowl regulations. All gun hunters will be required to possess proof of completion of the State Hunter Education Program. Only recognized retriever breeds for waterfowl hunting are allowed. Live vegetation can not be cut and used for blinds. Hunting is allowed until noon.